

HB 598 -- CONTINGENCY FEE CONTRACTS (Cornejo)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Special Committee on Litigation Reform

This bill provides that a private attorney retained by the state is not entitled to a fee, exclusive of costs and expenses, of more than a set percentage determined by the dollar amount recovered. The total fee payable to retained private attorneys in any matter subject to a contingency fee shall not exceed \$10 million, exclusive of costs and expenses provided for in the contracts and actually incurred by the attorneys. The bill specifies that a contingency fee is payable only from money actually received under judgment or settlement agreement and shall not be based on any amount attributable to a fine or civil penalty.

The Office of Administration shall publish on the MissouriBUYS e-procurement system specified information concerning contracts for legal services entered into an amount greater than \$25 hundred.